

LAMBDA

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Pornography: Exploitation or Entertainment?

Ron Jeremy and Susan Cole debate and share stories with a packed Fraser Auditorium



Sebastien Perth

ALEX TAYLOR
EDITOR IN CHIEF

In the grand scheme of the entertainment industry, adult films make up a dramatic percentage of the money spent by North Americans every year. Many view it as a healthy addiction - Plug in, turn on, get off. It increases intimacy between monogamous partners. It supports experimentation and sexual awareness. It feels good.

However, there is of course a very vocal opposition to this type of entertainment, especially the more explicit forms of pornography. Women are being exploited. Viewers are objectifying fellow human beings. People are being encouraged to over-sexualize their interactions with others.

Both sides raise so many valid points that representatives from both perspectives have taken their show on the road, bringing a public debate to universities and colleges all over the US and Canada.

"Wait, what? Ron Jeremy? The Hedgehog? He's coming here?"

For two weeks leading up to the September 28th debate between Ron Jeremy and Susan Cole, most students expressed enthusiasm in passing as they came across posters about the event. Brave souls expressed their excitement and adoration. Braver souls explained to friends which films of his were their favourite...

What's most important to keep in mind when one meets Mr. Jeremy is his humble beginnings. Two bachelor's degrees and an MA in special education, the Hedgehog started out as a high-school special ed teacher. A photo submission from an ex-girlfriend led to a photo spread in Playgirl and the adult film industry welcomed Ron with open arms. Often praised for repre-

senting the 'average guy', Jeremy has gone on to act in over 1900 adult films and earning himself the #1 spot on AVN's list of the "Top 100 Porn Stars of All Time". His current foray into the world of mainstream entertainment has been complimented by his appearance on VH1's The Surreal Life, as well as his current viral video campaigns on heavy.com and YouTube. He's also an accomplished pianist, and yes, he's aware of the potential for Freudian slips.

His partner in crime on the current debate tour is Susan Cole. Author and activist, Susan works as senior entertainment editor for NOW Magazine in Toronto. She's also published two books about pornography: Power Surge: Sex, Violence & Pornography and Pornography and the Sex Crisis. Very involved in women's rights and queer activism, Cole's perspective is that the pornography that Jeremy produces, directs and stars in is demeaning to women, and that most forms of hard and softcore porn are exploitive and shouldn't be available to the general public.

Cole believes that pornography's availability is affecting people's sexuality and is changing how society views sex.

"I think that we're living in a culture where a manufactured sexuality is being pimped to consumers in extremely large numbers," she said. "I use the word 'colonizing sexuality' because it perpetuates the way men and women think they need to be in sex."

Further exploring the submission/dominance theme, Cole brought up during the debate that she's even seen Jeremy himself in scenes where he places pillows over his sexual partner's faces in an attempt to deter them from talking during the act. She feels that this sort of control suggests to viewers that the women in the film, and in turn, women in gen-

eral, are only to be used for sexual gratification and otherwise ignored.

Jeremy brought with him a collection of articles and photos that he used to demonstrate that there were a number of women in the adult industry who had taken control of their careers and their finances by starting their own companies and representing themselves, rather than being forced into performances that they weren't comfortable with. He was also quick to point out that with the introduction of DVDs and internet accessible porn, the market was changing and there is increasingly more content available for couples who are interested in exploring their own relationships. Jeremy admitted and agreed that there were forms of exploitation and

coercion within the porn industry, but that it was nowhere near common. Pornography, to him, is just another form of entertainment - When used responsibly, it can be an important and beneficial part of anyone's life.

The most interesting part of the debate began when Cole and Jeremy opened the discussion up to the audience. For the most part, questions and comments were mature and challenging, and a number of students raised concerns that Susan's perspective was in some way intending to make people feel guilty about enjoying their sexuality and their appreciation of adult entertainment. "Are you implying that I should be ashamed that watching sex turns me on?" Susan's response was that sexuality itself wasn't the problem, but she

encouraged the audience to consider the perspectives that were being suggested the next time they watched porn.

The evening ended with photos and autographs, surely fulfilling many childhood fantasies. If nothing else, the debate opened up a topic that is not often discussed in university settings - Should we support something that may be ethically questionable just because it makes us feel good?

"It's a choice," Jeremy stated. "The women and men who work in the adult film industry are there for a lot of reasons, some positive and some negative, but what it comes down to is that they're choosing to be a part of the industry."



Sebastien Perth

Ron Jeremy and Susan Cole discuss the negative and positive aspects of pornography, exploring the possibilities of exploitation of women as well as the potential benefits to individuals and couples.



Adventures in Teaching

Current and former Laurentian students share their experiences teaching English in Taiwan and China

FEATURE STARTS ON PAGE 6



Matt Good + Northern Ontario = Maybe not best friends forever...

Matt plays in the Soo and Sudbury
REVIEW AND STORY ON PAGE 5

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WRITE TO US

Include your full name and student number. Please keep articles to a maximum of 700 words. Lambda reserves the right to edit for content considered sexist, racist, homophobic, heterosexist, for length, or legal purposes. Letters of a harassing or slanderous nature will be dealt with by the proper authorities.

ADDITIONALLY...

Lambda is supported in large part by green tea, multivitamins and Sudbury tap water. We respectfully reserve the right to make indirect references to old Canadian TV shows, sci fi films and terrible pop-rock bands.

Han shot first.

Thanksgiving and elections in the same week = terrible idea



Alex Taylor
 Editor-in-Chief

Happy Thanksgiving and more importantly (sorry family members), happy Ontario Election Week! I'm geeking out big time right now, pumped about finding out who won here in Sudbury and back in my home riding. The Political Science Association is having an Election Night Party tonight to watch the election results on the big screen in the games room. No, seriously. Us poli sci kids don't mess around, hahaha. Thanks to the lovely Kayleigh Heathcote, she and I will be rocking out in homemade t-shirts - me in my 'vote no to MMP' and her in her blue pro-Tory shirt (and heels!). I'll tell you how it goes in my next editorial, but I think we can all agree that foosball + junk food + elections = greatest night in history. Obviously.

You'll also notice on the little sidebar here that we have new employees! Yaaaaay. Thanks to everyone who came out for interviews - I met a lot of really amazing people who I hope will stay involved with the paper. I'm going to let the new staff introduce themselves in individual columns over the next couple of weeks, but rest assured, they're fantastic.

This issue of Lambda has a

pretty wide assortment of articles so I'm sure you'll be entertained - I specifically want to draw your attention to pages 6, 7 and 8, where we've put together a feature section about teaching english overseas. There's some information about how and where to apply, and there's also two fantastic personal pieces - One from Mat Thompson, former Lambda editor and current novelist and teacher extraordinaire in Taiwan. The other is a piece from a current student, Blair Lesage, who successfully managed to seduce my soul on one of the first days that we hung out by bringing me his journal from his teaching experiences in China. His blurb is an excerpt from that journal - I really think you'll dig both articles.

On a completely unrelated note, I want to bring up an issue that's been discussed over the last couple of weeks, and especially over the last couple of days here on campus - All the Vote for MMP signs. I initially didn't have an issue with this because I think that students should be allowed to express their perspectives freely as often as possible. That said, this weekend I was exploring the CFS website about electoral reform, www.changethesystem.com, and I came across a list of student unions across Ontario that had 'signed on' if you will, pledging to support MMP.

Here's where some of my

peers and I have an issue. I find it problematic that a student union that we have to pay to be a part of, a student union that I'm forced to join when I register as a student, is making decisions that marginalize a huge part of their membership. This isn't a case of the SGA and AEF standing up against tuition fees - that's something that's directly beneficial to students and I think it's a legitimate cause. I question how holding hands with the CFS and overwhelmingly advocating for MMP is in any way justifiable when there's no evidence to support the idea that MMP will in any way benefit my life as a student. My former prof and good friend Dr. Michael Johns suggested in response to my concern that this is fairly commonplace within unions - Unions like the CAW often come out in support of specific political parties, depending on whose platform best matches the goals of the union itself. I understand and agree with his point, but I can't say that I particularly support the idea in general. I know that we elected our SGA, and the executive are all friends of mine, but I'm not comfortable with them spending a weekend at a CFS conference and deciding something on my behalf without even bringing the conversation up with the student population before the vote. I confess that I don't attend SGA board meetings all that often, but I still feel like this current MMP campaign has

gone completely above and beyond a student representative campaign and has turned into a "here's what I think is right, so that's what you should vote for." I don't think that anyone on the student unions or the Education Action Coalition began this campaign with that intention, but in some people's perspectives, including my own, it's descended into a bit of a mockery of the referendum in general. Hopefully future campaigns here on campus are more balanced or at least less overwhelmingly one side or the other. I'm just not feeling like my right to representation is being fulfilled at the moment.

There's a ton of great movie nights and other events coming up this month, so take a look through the paper this week and mark a few things down on your calendar - I've noticed that on campus events seem to be doing pretty well this year, so I hope that everyone keeps participating and stays involved! Quick final administrative note - The next issue of Lambda comes out on the 25th but the deadline for submissions has been moved up a couple of days, to the 19th. If you're interested in writing anything, please send it in before that weekend so that we can make sure everything gets printed on time. Why the early deadline, you ask? I'll save that story for next time...

Stay good,
 -Alex

Pride @ LU Film & Discussion Night

THE LARAMIE PROJECT

Friday, October 12th at 5pm
 room C-309

This is a free event which will include a presentation of the film, a candlelight memorial for Matthew Shepard, and a discussion led by guest speaker, Dana Cudney.

Feel free to drop by the Pride office in L-228 if you have any questions, or call call 675-1151 ext. 1088.



since it's probably raining.. here's something to make you smile...

THEY'RE MADE OUT OF MEAT
by Terry Bisson

"They're made out of meat."
 "Meat?"
 "Meat. They're made out of meat."
 "Meat?"
 "There's no doubt about it. We picked up several from different parts of the planet, took them aboard our recon vessels, and probed them all the way through. They're completely meat."
 "That's impossible. What about the radio signals? The messages to the stars?"
 "They use the radio waves to talk, but the signals don't come from them. The signals come from machines."
 "So who made the machines? That's who we want to contact."
 "They made the machines. That's what I'm trying to tell you. Meat made the machines."
 "That's ridiculous. How can meat make a machine? You're asking me to believe in sentient meat."
 "I'm not asking you, I'm telling you. These creatures are the only sentient race in that sector and they're made out of meat."
 "Maybe they're like the orfolei. You know, a carbon-based intelligence that goes through a meat stage."
 "Nope. They're born meat and they die meat. We studied them for several of their life spans, which didn't take long. Do you have any idea what's the life span of meat?"
 "Spare me. Okay, maybe they're

only part meat. You know, like the weddilei. A meat head with an electron plasma brain inside."
 "Nope. We thought of that, since they do have meat heads, like the weddilei. But I told you, we probed them. They're meat all the way through."
 "No brain?"
 "Oh, there's a brain all right. It's just that the brain is made out of meat! That's what I've been trying to tell you."
 "So ... what does the thinking?"
 "You're not understanding, are you? You're refusing to deal with what I'm telling you. The brain does the thinking. The meat."
 "Thinking meat! You're asking me to believe in thinking meat!"
 "Yes, thinking meat! Conscious meat! Loving meat. Dreaming meat. The meat is the whole deal! Are you beginning to get the picture or do I have to start all over?"
 "Omigod. You're serious then. They're made out of meat."
 "Thank you. Finally. Yes. They are indeed made out of meat. And they've been trying to get in touch with us for almost a hundred of their years."
 "Omigod. So what does this meat have in mind?"
 "First it wants to talk to us. Then I imagine it wants to explore the Universe, contact other sentiences, swap ideas and information. The usual."
 "We're supposed to talk to meat."

"That's the idea. That's the message they're sending out by radio. 'Hello. Anyone out there. Anybody home.' That sort of thing."
 "They actually do talk, then. They use words, ideas, concepts?"
 "Oh, yes. Except they do it with meat."
 "I thought you just told me they used radio."
 "They do, but what do you think is on the radio? Meat sounds. You know how when you slap or flap meat, it makes a noise? They talk by flapping their meat at each other. They can even sing by squirting air through their meat."
 "Omigod. Singing meat. This is altogether too much. So what do you advise?"
 "Officially or unofficially?"
 "Both."
 "Officially, we are required to contact, welcome and log in any and all sentient races or multibeings in this quadrant of the Universe, without prejudice, fear or favor. Unofficially, I advise that we erase the records and forget the whole thing."
 "I was hoping you would say that."
 "It seems harsh, but there is a limit. Do we really want to make contact with meat?"
 "I agree one hundred percent. What's there to say? 'Hello, meat. How's it going?' But will this work? How many planets are we dealing with here?"
 "Just one. They can travel to other

planets in special meat containers, but they can't live on them. And being meat, they can only travel through C space. Which limits them to the speed of light and makes the possibility of their ever making contact pretty slim. Infinitesimal, in fact."
 "So we just pretend there's no one home in the Universe."
 "That's it."
 "Cruel. But you said it yourself, who wants to meet meat? And the ones who have been aboard our vessels, the ones you probed? You're sure they won't remember?"
 "They'll be considered crackpots if they do. We went into their heads and smoothed out their meat so that we're just a dream to them."
 "A dream to meat! How strangely appropriate, that we should be meat's dream."
 "And we marked the entire sector unoccupied."
 "Good. Agreed, officially and unofficially. Case closed. Any others? Anyone interesting on that side of the galaxy?"
 "Yes, a rather shy but sweet hydrogen core cluster intelligence in a class nine star in G445 zone. Was in contact two galactic rotations ago, wants to be friendly again."
 "They always come around."
 "And why not? Imagine how unbearably, how unutterably cold the Universe would be if one were all alone ..."

Dr. Gary Kinsman receives Laurentian University's Research Excellence Award

Dr. Gary Kinsman, full professor in the department of sociology, is the recipient of Laurentian University's Research Excellence Award for 2006-2007. The award is given annually to a faculty member whose research contributes significantly to the reputation and prestige of the university.

Dr. Gary Kinsman is one of Canada's leading specialists on the sociology and history of sexual regulation and an authority on gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender issues.

Dr. Gary Kinsman is also known for his contribution to the development of the new research methodology of political activist ethnography. In this regard, Dr. Kinsman has been using this approach not just to map out social relations of struggles against injustice but also to produce transformative knowledge about the social world for activists and social movements.

Professionals outside the academic community recognize Dr. Kinsman's expertise. On several occasions, he has been called to testify as an expert witness in court cases; national and regional media seek his commentary on issues related to sexual regulation and other topics.

Since his arrival at Laurentian University in 1994, Dr. Gary Kinsman has consistently and successfully strived to create a flourishing research environment. He has initiated and contributed to collaborative research projects and has served as mentor to less-experienced colleagues and students.

Dr. Kinsman's current research projects include work on the co-authored *The Canadian War on Queers: National Security as Sexual Regulation*, a book to be published by University of British Columbia. He is also working on developing forms of theorizing that resist fetishism and reification (the transformation of relations between people into relations between things), research on how to give the insights of post-structuralism and queer theory a clearer historical materialist basis, and on the social organization of memory and forgetting.

The 2006-2007 Research Excellence Award will be presented to Dr. Kinsman on October 27, during fall convocation ceremonies.

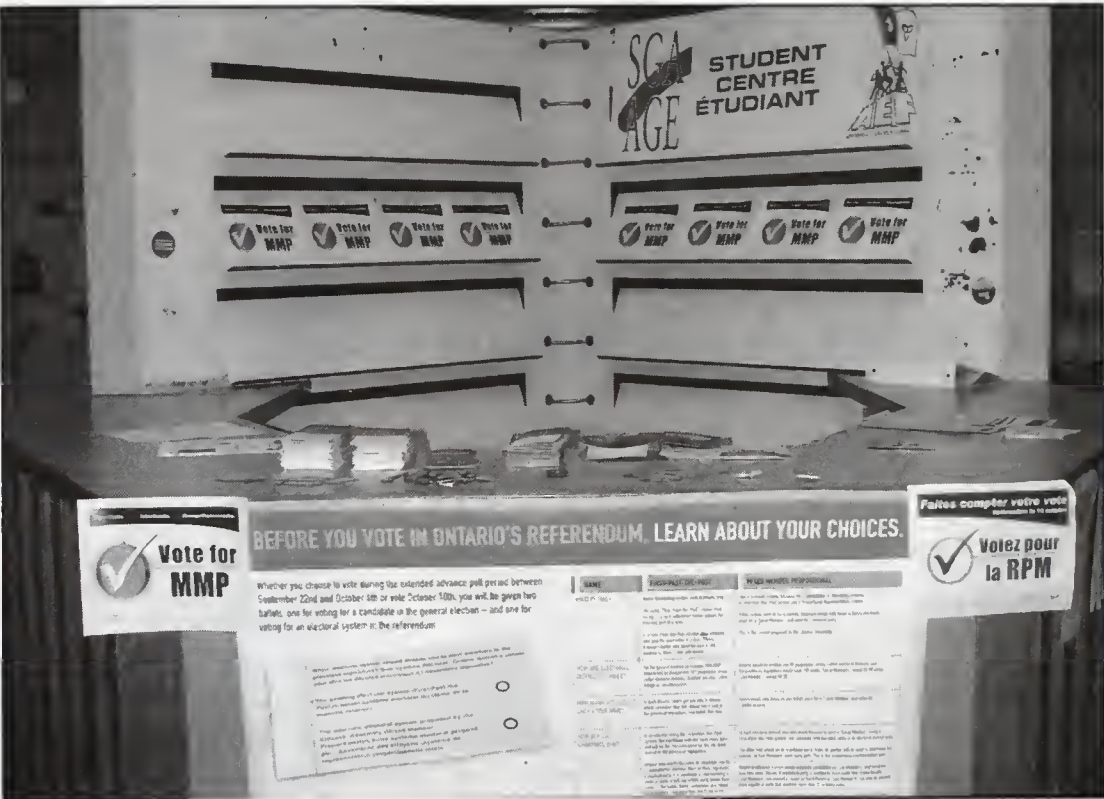
Dr. Michael Persinger receives 2007 Leadership in Faculty Teaching Award

Sudbury (Ontario) – Dr. Michael Persinger, professor in the department of psychology at Laurentian University and coordinator of the behavioral neuroscience program, is the recipient of a Leadership in Faculty Teaching Award (LIFT). LIFT Awards, given for the first time this year by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, recognize faculty who demonstrate leadership in teaching methods for the diverse student body of Ontario.

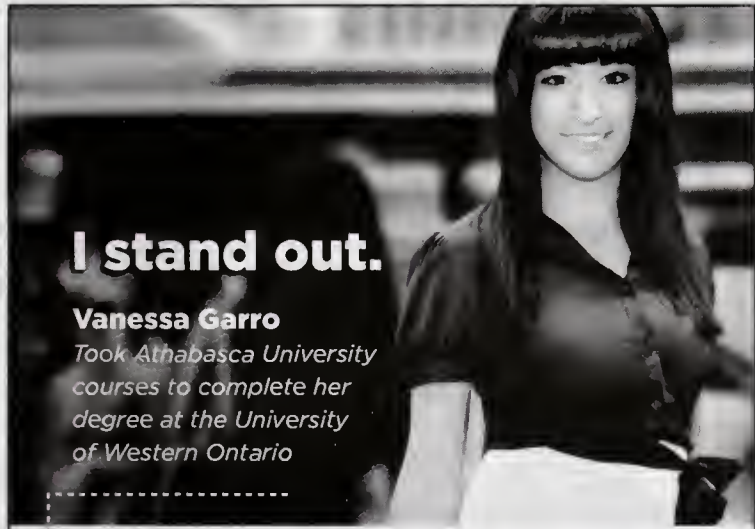
"We are pleased to see one of our professors recognized for his performance in the classroom," said Laurentian University president Judith Woodsworth. "We congratulate Dr. Persinger on this award."

Dr. Persinger has been teaching at Laurentian University since 1971. In his teachings, he enjoys integrating the concepts of physics, chemistry, and biology with those of psychology, anthropology, and history in order to show the fundamental patterns of all human experiences. Last year, Dr. Persinger won TVO's Best Lecturer Competition.

In September 2006, students and faculty from Ontario colleges and universities were invited to submit nominations for the new LIFT awards. One hundred of Ontario's college and university faculty members have been named winners for 2007. Each winner will receive \$20,000 over two years to contribute toward continued student learning.



Election Week was in full swing on Thanksgiving Monday as representatives from the student unions plastered the school with election information. Most of the information being presented is in support of MMP, creating concerns about partisan politics on campus.



I stand out.

Vanessa Garro
Took Athabasca University courses to complete her degree at the University of Western Ontario

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19 PLUS EVENT

New Science North Exhibit takes a light-hearted look at animal courtship

SUDBURY, ON -*Fatal Attraction*, a new special exhibition opening October 6, 2007 at Science North provides a scientific, and playful, look at the language of love in the animal kingdom. This exhibition is not focused on mating, but rather the art of seduction and offers a light-hearted and highly informative look at the courtship rituals of mammals, birds, fish, amphibians and insects!

Fatal Attraction will be on display at Science North from October 6, 2007 to January 6, 2008 and is included with Science Centre admission; free for Science North members.

Fun Facts About Flirting Among Animals

The male drumming wolf-spider charms the female by drumming with his abdomen on dead leaves which sends out vibrations to reach the female.

The female Midshipman fish lights up when she is ready to mate. The male spots her, grunts, and if she approaches he starts flashing hot pink - a definite change from his everyday grey!

These are just some of the interesting tactics animals employ to attract one another. The number of forms that these

"love letters" take is almost infinite: songs, calls, positions, mimics, vibrations, light codes, bright or flashy colours, scents, proud strutting, dances, even sounds and colours we can't detect!

With more than 100 specimens from European natural history collections visitors will get a chance to see amorous animals up close, from a proud-looking peacock to an ostentatious ostrich and a magnificent moose.

But it's a tough world out there, with profiteers and imposters lurking too close for comfort! Attracting and

seducing a mate is not always a no-risk business as predators may also read the signals. Some of them can imitate the courting signs of other animals and lure their prey to their doom!

Visit sciencenorth.ca for more information. Please note that some visitors may be sensitive to some of the content of this exhibition.

The North American tour of *Fatal Attraction* is presented by the Alliance of Natural History Museums of Canada, produced by CASTex. *Fatal Attraction* North American Tour is coordinated by the Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa.

From the Grey Matter of Josh Buck...

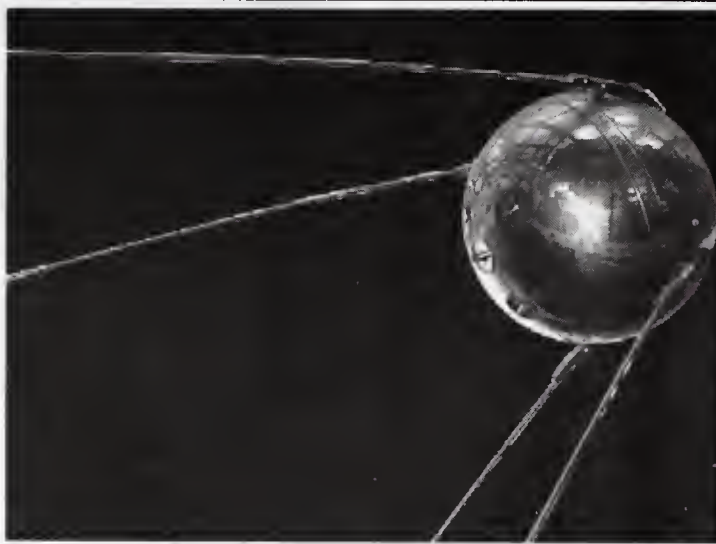


JOSH BUCK
SCI & TECH EDITOR

Hello everyone!

Welcome to the new home of all things science and tech in the lambda, I am your new science and technology editor Josh Buck. I am looking forward to covering many of the new and fascinating stories that spew forth from this school's many departments. I am also looking for any questions or suggestions for new and interesting topics to cover. Not sure how something works? Do you have a question burning in the back of your mind? Write in and ask me and I will try my hardest to get to the bottom of it. As well as answering questions I would like to review different pieces of technology that affects us students in any different magnitude so if you have any suggestions feel free to email me at lambda@laurentian.ca, attn: Josh. Although not in a science based program I am fascinated by all things science and tech and am willing to dive deep into any topic brought to my attention. I am looking forward to seeing you students out at the many wonderful events that our school has to offer in this area. The realm of science and

technology is always moving at a lighting fast pace and seeing as I'm not superman.. yet... I will be attempting my best to keep you all abreast in what is going on in our school as well as the world around us. I have many keen ideas on what can and may get to be discussed and i am looking forward to causing some large debates within my column so please judge what i write, question what i say and think independently and openly about any topics put forth. We are living in a world that is becoming increasingly dependent on technology to run our lives and I will be diving into many question different issues throughout this year. I am by no means a Luddite however blind faith in anything, especially technology and the science community has the potential to be extremely disastrous. This is where my non-science background will hopefully be help with this column, as I am an outsider looking in from a different point of view of many. Being controversial is fine with me and asking the questions no one else will makes life less boring and reminds us all to be free thinking agents. And yes I am going to be that cliché.



50 years ago last week, the Soviet Union ushered in the space age by blasting a 83 kg metal ball into orbit. Oh, and it beeped.

It amazed the world. It scared Americans. It only stayed up for 22 days. But after Sputnik, nothing was really ever the same in science, politics, or our conception of the universe.

Nobel Prize Winners; Part I

JOSH BUCK

SCIENCE AND TECH EDITOR

So it is that time of year again, as the world of academia picks through the many wonders of its own brethren and their life time of work and holds up a few of the best and brightest to honour them with the most prestigious honours in their various fields. To date the awards for the field of Medicine or Physiology and the field of Physics have been awarded; however by print the awards for Chemistry and Literature will have been announced. Friday October 12th the Nobel Peace Prize will be awarded and on Monday the 15th the prize for Economics will be announced. As with every passing year it is interesting to see what it is that the top academics are up to. This year the Nobel Prize in Medicine or Physiology was awarded to three men, Mario R. Capecchi, Martin J. Evans and Oliver Smithies for their discoveries of "principles for introducing specific gene modifications in mice by the use of embryonic stem cells"

Specifically they were able to create a new type of technology that allows for the gene modification of specific genes within stem cells. This new technology is referred to as gene targeting in mice, very creative. It has been applied to most areas of biomedicine from basic research to the development of new therapies.

Experiments in which specific genes are targets and made inactive is referred to "knockout" experiment and to date more than ten thousand mice genes have been "knockedout" this is about half of the entire mouse genome and in the near future there will be a knockout mouse for all genes available. With this technology it is possible to create almost and variation of the mouse genome allowing for greater understanding of the role of each gene in health and disease. Gene targeting has already produced more than five hundred models of human disorders, including cancer and diabetes. Clearly the benefits of such a new technology can be quiet easily seen as we can use mice to very closely emulate human disorders and discover which gene or genes are at the root of the problems.

This year's Nobel Prize in Physics was awarded to Peter Grünberg and Albert Fert for the discovery of Giant Magnetoresistance. This technology is used to read data on hard disks, and allows for the miniaturization of hard disks in recent years that are now used in MP3 players and laptops. It was in 1988 that Peter Grünberg and Albert Fert both discovered Giant Magnetoresistance or GMR independently from one another. Very weak magnetic changes give rise to

major differences in electrical resistance in a GMR system. This system turns out to be a very good tool for reading data from hard disks when the information registered magnetically has to be converted to electric current. This technology was soon put to use in the read out heads and in 1997 the first read out head based on GMR was introduced; it has since become the standard. Hard disks store information in the form of microscopically small areas that are magnetized in different directions. The read out head then scans the disk and registers the magnetic difference and a read out head with greater sensitivity is needed if you want to pack even more information on a disk. The new GMR based read out head can convert extremely small magnetic changes into differences in electrical resistance and there-for into changes in the current emitted by the read out head. These current emissions from the read out head indicate either a one or a zero.

This is of course a very basic outline of the very interesting work that these brilliant scientists have done in the course of their lifetimes and I will be reviewing the other four categories in the upcoming issues of the Lambda so watch out for them. However if you cannot wait that long log on to nobel-prize.org for the rest of the stories.



Matt Moskal
A & E Editor

Bonjour!

A lot has happened in the past week. By now Ontario's 39th Legislative Assembly has been determined as defending champion Dalton McGuinty put up his electoral dukes in a four way brawl for the prestigious title of Ontario premier. Personally, I think there's nothing more satisfying than practicing my political freedoms. They're definitely in my top five favourite personal freedoms.

As pertaining to upcoming A&E events this month, the days are counting down until Stuart McLean's triumphant return to Fraser Auditorium on the 14th. Doors will open at 7:30 PM; get your tickets while you still can.

However, before the Vinyl Café hits Sudbury, Lautenslager Hall at Huntington University College will be hosting its third Piano Marathon. This performance will feature full length recitals from Damien Laframboise, Aimee Leonard, Susan Silverton and Charlene Biggs. The program will run from 12:00 to 10:00 pm for the price of \$12.00 per student or \$20.00 per adult.

The Cobble Stones and Bobby Evans are hitting Fraser Auditorium on Sunday October 28th. Student pricing for tickets will be \$20.00.

Along with the upcoming A&E events I'm excited to announce that I will soon be looking for an official LAMBDA cartoonist for second semester. For more details on the position e-mail me at mx_moskal@laurentian.ca. Updates on the position are coming soon.

If you can believe it's the middle of October already, things are about to get a little more interesting.

Matt Good performs and provokes in Northern Ontario

MATT MOSKAL
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Since the dawn of performance, the relationship between audience and entertainer has been called into question countless times. Some performers live for their fans (see: U2), some fans live for their favourite performers (U2 as well, actually), and then there's artists who play like they'd be making music even if it weren't for the ability to record and perform for attentive audiences (Jandek anyone?).

While Burnaby, British Columbia native Matthew Good hasn't always had the best of repertoires with his audience. Good himself has acknowledged other's views of his unrelenting confidence and joked about his disposition for years. Many have still not heeded this warning (See: The Future is X-Rated video and/or various hints dropped from the Audio of Being album). However, because Matt is recognized as a popular alternative rock artist and not every audience member is expected to have read his heartfelt blog (www.matthewgood.org), tensions are to be expected between the activist/artist and some viewers.

Recently, Mr. Good hit Sudbury's On the Rocks for an intimate solo acoustic show that found the bar sold out and littered with excited students. Granted, intimacy and excitement create an interesting cocktail that can turn

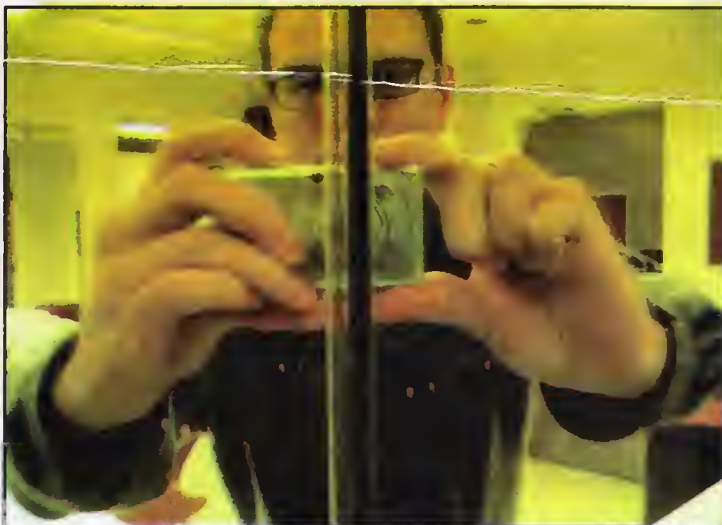


Photo by Matthew Good/www.matthewgood.org

Matt Good adds to his Flickr photolog on his Nothing To Hide tour to promote his newest album, Hospital Music.

out disastrous, but despite the rowdiness of some crowd members, the show was seemingly unscathed from start to finish (minus the occasional offhand remark).

Before appearing at On the Rocks, controversy began to develop around a show Good put on in Sault Ste. Marie for Algoma University College. Donna Hopper of Soo Today stressed the show was "virtually unnoticed" in an article released the day of his Sudbury appearance. Sources indicate that the intoxication levels of the audience were a factor in the limited reaction.

Good stressed a degree of satisfaction towards Hopper's lament and tried to simply leave it at that. Unfortunately, this was not the case, as a provoked Good

has now suggested a need not to return to the Sault Ste. Marie area.

At On the Rocks, Matthew Good was standing over a crowd riled up by the appearance of Dala, his most recent of tour mates. The duo performed a poppy and upbeat set showcasing two medleys incorporating personal favourites by Buffalo Springfield and Peggy Lee and several tracks off their new album "Who Do You Think You Are?" (Available now). Members Sheila Carabine and Amanda Walther connected to the mass with an honest and down to Earth sense of humour that built on the intimacy of the show. However, when Good took the stage, this warmth was transformed into something completely different.

Starting off his set with "Advertising on Police Cars" from 2001's "The Audio of Being", Good created a raw and gloomy atmosphere that either pulled in or alienated onlookers as the show progressed. He would later feed to more casual listeners with an acoustic reworking of "Load Me Up", and the chilling "Strange Days" from "Beautiful Midnight". Still, none of these songs would even come close to the reception attained by the opening chords of the melancholy "Apparitions", which unfortunately outweighed the cheers of all of Good's newest material combined.

Matt's new disc "Hospital Music" took up that majority of his set list to mixed reactions. While anti-war songs like "Black Helicopter" received the sarcastic response of "I hate George Bush!" and "I'm A Window" inspired some charismatic audience member to yell "Play 'Rico'!" over 10 times consecutively, Good merely shrugged off hecklers and played on. He even gave an encore (featuring a show stopping a cappella rendition of "North American for Life") before returning to the comfort of his tour bus.

The fallout of Good's stay in Northern Ontario sparks an interesting debate in the world of live musical performance art. Who really controls the energy of a concert? And where does this control actually belong?

Old Bard Reigns

The Compleat Works of Wilm Shkspr (abridged) at the STC

MATT MOSKAL
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

William Shakespeare is responsible for 38 (known) plays, 154 (known) sonnets, and more than a comfortable influence on the English language. He is also responsible for making high school students everywhere fall into a deep trance-like sleep in the middle of English lectures.

Whether you're a fan of the most notorious name in theatre or not, Sudbury Theatre Centre's latest production of "The Compleat Works of Wilm Shkspr (abridged)" has a fair serving of comedy for you.

The play is based on the idea that somewhere down the line, someone believe that it was necessary for three actors (Jameson Kraemer, Derek Moran, and Ari Weinberg) with varying Shakespearean exposure to cram every single play (or at least an adaptation) into a two act production. And, to make matters worse, they only have 90 minutes to do it.

From the opening moments to the final curtain, "The Compleat Works of Wilm Shkspr (abridged)" makes a habit of not disappointing its audience. From the high energy and relentless physicality of Ari Weinberg to the extravagant Shakespearean splendour of Jameson Kraemer, each cast member descends upon the stage with three different manors of comedic presenta-

tion. One might confuse Kraemer or Moran's performances with an actual Shakespearean production at times; however, when they step out of the context of their old English/Greek characters, hilarity ensues.

Much like the knuckleheaded actors in "A Midsummer Night's Dream" the trio fumble through the plots of various plays. They manage keep the ball rolling despite the shortcomings of their interpretations, such as Ari's thoughts on "Othello" and "Coriolanus", which are quickly disregarded.

Elsewhere, entire stories are given more attention and detail in their execution for the sake of roping in audiences in to more familiar Shakespearean plots. In these cases, the tragedies are used as they are, as the cast points out, "funnier than the comedies".

These performances come complete with audience interaction, sped up dialogue, and a grand finale that you have to see for yourself.

Enthusiasts and the unenthused parties towards Shakespearean plays will have no problem enjoying themselves during "The Compleat Works of Wilm Shkspr (abridged)" as it serves the purpose of parody and tribute all at once through its exhaustingly lively execution. This is the start to a promising season at the Sudbury Theatre Centre.

THE TOWNHOUSE MINI-CALENDAR

The Forcefulls - Oct. 12th - \$5
Comfortable Chairs - Oct. 13th - \$5
SOCAN Night - Oct. 16th
Marvelous Darlings - Oct. 19th - \$5
Wintersleep and Wooden Stars -
 Oct. 21st \$10
Inus Aso Halloween Party! - Oct. 27th
 - \$10
The Heavy Halloween Party
(Atropheed, Sotreum) - Oct. 31st - \$5
The Last Weekend (The Sadies,
White Cowbell Oklahoma, etc.) -
 Nov. 9th - 11th - \$25 @ SGA Office
 All events 19+ (Proof of age of majority required)

Teaching English as a Second Language

ADVICE, INFORMATION AND EXPERIENCES FROM LAURENTIAN ALUMNI AND CURRENT STUDENTS WHO HAVE TRAVELED OVERSEAS TO TEACH ENGLISH. LAMBDA IS PLEASED TO PRESENT PERSPECTIVES ON LIFE AS A FOREIGN TEACHER IN CHINA AND TAIWAN.

Blair Lesage

4th year English
Taught in China

Blair traveled to China in 2003. The following is an excerpt from the journals that he kept during his experience.

Today I am celebrating my one week anniversary of being in China. I am also celebrating five days of teaching one of the most difficult languages in the world. The private school is just outside of Nanjing, a four and a-half hour train ride west of Shanghai, in the province of Jiangsu. In the last week I have taught conversational English to over four hundred students in ten classes. The school houses three thousand studious teenagers from Nanjing and the surrounding cities. The students study from six in the morning until nine at night, breaking for lunch and dinner.

On my first day of classes, I remember being a little hesitant as I nervously climbed the flight of stairs to my initial encounter. I didn't know what to expect or how they react to me, or my teaching philosophies. I have never been responsible for such a large group of teenagers and I hoped they would be easier on me than I was on my teachers. I was never

a serious student instead I would apt for daydreaming or engineering 'the world's greatest pea shooter', but once I was motivated in a subject I would stay with it to the end. I didn't have a set plan for the class, but I was prepared to cover a lot of material. I knew I needed to get their attention early and to keep it for the entire forty-five minute lesson. Of course, this would be my greatest challenge.

I walked into the class and realized the positive energy and the excitement, as the students looked me over. I announced, in a loud voice, "My name is Blair", as I turned and started to print my name on the chalkboard in four foot letters, I continued "and I am from Canada". I could hear snickering and even some laughter from behind me, as I round the capital 'R'. I had their attention, now to keep it. When I turned back all the student's eyes were pasted on me. In their smiles I could see them asking, "What is the new teacher going to do next?"

In those first classes I did everything and anything to keep their eyes adverted from the comic book or from glazing over. I jumped. I yelled. I sang. I dropped books. I climbed desks. I clapped. I danced. I made snowmobile noises. I ran. I stood on chairs. I spoke

like a ring announcer. I fell to the floor and praised a student when he answered correctly. Basically, I preformed. I could feel their eye focused squarely on me as I spoke painfully slow about the merits of English. When I paused, I saw a hand shoot up! "Teacher!" the boy shouted like he was ready to explode, "Tell us more about you and Canada". After explaining more about myself, and my homeland I asked the boy his name. He stood, straightened his school jumpsuit, and said in his best broken English, "My name, teacher, is Crazy". He must have anticipated my confused expression as he followed it up by saying, quite enthusiastically, "because I am crazy about learning English".

Shortly after meeting Crazy and more of his classmates, the buzzer rang and the students filed out towards the front of the school for their morning exercises. I stayed back to clean the chalkboard and was relieved to notice not a single spitball. After my first day I felt I had made a positive impression, as whenever I walk around the compound I would receive "Hello" catcalls from all directions. Always I answer them back by yelling back, waving and showing a big friendly smile.

My teaching philosophy:
**Entertain,
Intrigue, Inspire.**



Looking for more information about teaching abroad?

The questions and answers given below are adapted from Chapter 1 of Jeff Mohamed's book "Teaching English Overseas: A Job Guide For Americans And Canadians."

What are the differences between TEFL, TESL, TESOL and ELT?

TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) involves teaching people, usually in their own countries, who want to use English for business, leisure, travel, etc.

TESL (Teaching English as a Second Language) involves teaching immigrants in English-speaking countries.

TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) and ELT (English Language Teaching) are terms which cover both TEFL and TESL. Confusingly, the acronym TESOL also refers to the American professional association: Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages.

Are there really jobs out there? Where are they?

There are many more TEFL jobs worldwide than there are native-speaking EFL teachers to fill them. If you are American or Canadian, you should be able to find jobs reasonably easily in areas such as Latin America, Asia

and Eastern/Central Europe. The only job markets which you will find it difficult to break into will be those in other English-speaking countries, Western Europe (unless you have a European Union passport) and Africa.

Where are the highest paying jobs?

The highest paying jobs in Asia are in Korea, Taiwan and Japan, although some teachers in China also earn high salaries. Elsewhere, the best salaries are paid by employers in the oil-producing countries of the Arabia Gulf.

Do I need a degree to be able to teach English overseas?

A BA or BS degree is almost always preferred by employers, but it is not legally essential in most countries. However, it is impossible to work legally in the Mid East and some parts of Asia without a BA/BS degree.

Do I need specific TEFL training or certification?

No ... and yes! Most schools overseas employ untrained teachers and some of these teachers do just fine. However, most of the better employers now require or at least prefer teachers to be both trained and certified. So if you

want a good job, particularly in the more competitive markets, you should seriously consider taking a TEFL certificate training course.

Do I need to know a foreign language?

As almost all TEFL jobs require you to teach English purely in English, knowledge of a foreign language is not essential. However, having some experience of foreign language learning will give you many useful insights into what language is and how we learn it; and studying a foreign language will help you to learn more about English, and particularly English grammar. Some knowledge of the language of the country where you teach will make your out-of-school life easier and more rewarding.

Can I arrange a job before leaving home?

For many countries, you can arrange a job in advance, particularly if you have a degree and a reputable TEFL certificate. Unless you are looking for a very short term job, I would recommend that you fix up a job in advance if at all possible.

How can I arrange a job overseas?

Some people travel to their target country to look for work. Others arrange a job in advance by answering job advertisements or by contacting possible employers.

How can I be sure that an overseas employer is reputable?

Accept a job only if it is with an organization which has an established reputation or which is known to someone whose opinion you trust. Check out what other people say about the employer on Internet discussion sites and ask the employer to put you in touch with a current or past employee.

Before accepting any job offer, use the checklist given in Chapter 6 of Teaching English Overseas to make sure that the conditions of work are reasonable.

When do jobs start?

In Europe, most jobs start in September/October, with a much smaller number becoming available in January. Outside of these months, it is very difficult to find work. Elsewhere, jobs usually are available at any time of the year.

How long will I need to commit to?

Most good jobs require you to sign a year's contract. This is almost always true of jobs which can be arranged in advance and which provide airfare and housing. However, if you travel overseas to find a job, it is often possible to work on a month-by-month basis.

A few government-sponsored programs, such as the Peace Corps and JET, require a two-year commitment.

Will I need a work permit and/or residence visa?

To live and work in a foreign country, you must have a work permit; this then enables you to get a residence visa. To do even short-term work or private teaching overseas without a valid work permit is a criminal offense in all countries and offenders may be imprisoned or fined and deported.

In reality, the degree of risk involved varies greatly from country to country. Americans and Canadians who teach illegally in parts of Asia, Latin America and Western Europe rarely seem to have major problems, provided that they do not stay for more than a few months.

more on page 8...

CHECK OUT: ESLCAFE.COM - TRANSITIONSABROAD.COM - MARKESL.COM

Tales from Taiwan: Teaching as a Learning Exercise

"They're like little sponges you keep filling with more and more and you get to see their personalities come through..."

MAT THOMPSON

I remember seeing the ads in different newspapers, and a few people that I went to school with talking about going overseas to teach English, but it never dawned on me that it was an actual option. I remember standing in The Pub during the last week of school and telling one of the bartenders I had worked with down there for four years, that the amount of money they were claiming you could make going there had to be some kind of a scam. It just didn't seem real. Truthfully, at that time in my life, leaving Laurentian after seven years, nothing seemed real. I settled into a life, a town, a career and an idea that just wasn't for me. Three years later... I ran.

Almost one year ago to the day I was standing on a street corner in the centre of Taipei with two suitcases, a carry-on bag with my laptop, passport and a bunch of money even more colorful than the Canadian money I left behind, wondering where I was and why I was there. I was homeless. I'd been homeless for almost sixty hours at this point. I left some of my things with friends, kept about eight tote boxes in my parent's

wakes up everyday and pretends to be a teacher.

I have no qualifications to be a teacher other than a degree that says I'm an English Major, which means a lot more over here than one would think. I love to tell people I pretend to be a teacher because that's what a lot of people over here are doing. People with teaching degrees come here and they get frustrated that all their training goes against most of what you have to do or can do here. I see them and can spot them a mile away just like they can spot me in my cut-off jeans, Batman t-shirt, black ball cap and sandals walking into my school each day to greetings of 'Hello Teacher Mat' from the kids.

My kids. I was thrown into a grade five classroom my third day here and was offered a permanent job teaching that class within a week. English is my native tongue. English is what I have my degree in. This was going to be simple, I thought. I've been re-learning English ever since. The things that we just know, the things we aren't specifically taught, but we know since it is our native tongue are some of the hardest things to teach. There are patterns and formulas



Mat Thompson

Children wait and watch at an elementary school in Taiwan. Thompson is one of many university graduates who have traveled to foreign countries to teach english and learn about different cultures and ways of life.

who I have kept since starting with them. I got them in grade one and now move on with them. A lot of teachers will stay at the same grade level with new students each year, but I wanted to keep these ones. There's something about them that makes me want to stay with them until one of us leaves. They are my kids and I want to see them through. I love them, but just like any kids they can really get to you. I see them get off their school busses each day and say 'hello' to them as I sit at the front of the school eating my lunch, and I smile as each one says 'hello' to me. Of course I yell at them in class, throw their books in the garbage if they don't want to listen and generally scare them sometimes, but they're my kids and no one can take that away from me.

My grade five level class is a different story. I've only been with my new class for a month and I am dealing with seventeen girls and five boys. My old class was half the size and a quarter of the attitude. I forget they don't know the things I taught my other class the year before and sometimes have to take a step back and remember that even though their English is really good, it's hard for them.

I didn't know if I was going to last two months here. Truthfully, I didn't know if I was even going to last two weeks when I got here. Everything is different and everything makes

you realize how little you know about the world. I went days where all I ate was snacks from convenience stores until I learned what was good, what things were called and what half the food even was. It's different ordering food here and with most small shops and stands not having pictures or English, you have to depend on what you see. A lot of people here speak English, but you can't depend on it. Many are

"Everyone here has their reasons for coming here. Some will tell you, some won't. Some think they know and some know they don't, but we are all trying to figure it out as we go."

afraid to sound dumb, so they just don't, while others are afraid to speak to foreigners. I've gone entire days where I have been all over the city, and at the end of the day I realize an entire day has passed where I haven't spoken a word to anyone. It's overwhelming to be in a city this big and realize that there is no one to talk to sometimes.

Everyone asks about the money. Locals know English teachers are paid very well for their jobs, and we are. People back home want to know how much you make, people here want to know how much you

make, and it's a huge draw for a lot of people to come here for the money. I've seen those people, and I've seen them go as well. I won't lie, the money is good, but it's can't be your reason for being here. Money should not be the reason you leave your friends, family, stuff and your cat behind to teach English overseas. It's like doing anything out of greed, it just doesn't work. You have to find your reason for coming and doing this, but it's not like you have to know it right away.

People come here to escape the life they had or find something more exciting and different. Some are running away from love, and some are looking for it in a while new place. Some want the experience to further a planned life they are working towards while others have no plan but are loving the experiences they are having. Some came here for the money, the lifestyle, the food, the beaches, the easier way of life, the chance to wake up every day somewhere that they never thought they would and actually feel like they are home. Some want to learn Chinese and some just learn enough to get by. My reason for running? It just felt like the right thing to do at the time.

Those back home may never understand why we are here, and wonder why we can't give them a straight answer when they ask. I don't think it's a question that can be answered without them seeing what we do, where we are and experiencing it for themselves. Everyone here has their reasons for coming here. Some will tell you, some won't. Some think they know and some know they don't, but we are all trying to figure it out as we go. I don't see it as a case of trying to find ourselves like our parents did back in the 60's, backpacking around Europe, or taking a road trip across the country. No one here is lost, we're all just looking for that place where we can sit back, take in a deep breath and know, this is where we are supposed to be right now...



Mat Thompson

attic, and sold or gave away the rest of what I owned. I had enough clothes for a week and half, enough money to get me through the first two months and a phone number of someone in Taipei who would help me out if I needed it. It was 2:30 in the morning, I spoke no Chinese and had no plan other than to shake my life up a little. At that moment I was so shaken I almost threw up.

I've heard all the reasons why people do this. You'd be shocked at how many foreigners there are living in Taiwan right now, and just how many are here from Canada. There are new arrivals showing up all the time, veterans having going away parties, just to return a year or so later, and the rest of us who are trying to figure out what the true plan is. I hear people say they are here for a year and then they are going to go home and get set back there. I hear people who are here to begin a life way from home, and then there are others, just floating along with life in general. That's me... Mat Thompson, Laurentian graduate, unpublished author, and a guy who

worse than the math formulas that made me go into English in the first place. Even the most prepared teacher here will stand in front of a classroom, hear the question "But why do you have to say it that way?" and think to themselves "They're going to throw me out of the country if I can't answer this one", then look at the kids and say "You tell me. I already know."

The range of children I teach is wide. I begin the day with a three hour kindergarten class teaching English to children who have never learned English a day in their lives. They are scared, confused and so small that you could pick them all up in one hand and throw them out the door if needed (which I have only done once). Each week they begin to learn and you find your own way to get through to them. And once you do get through to them, they're yours. They're like little sponges you keep filling with more and more and you get to see their personalities come through, and see them develop right in front of you. Caffeine helps though... lots of caffeine.

I have a grade two class



Laurentian Alumni Mat Thompson takes a break on the beach in Taiwan. Thompson quit his job in Canada and moved to Taiwan to teach English as a second language.

More Frequently Asked Questions about teaching overseas

cont. from page 6...

How do I get a work permit and residence visa?

Normally you first have to secure a job offer. Then your employer will sponsor and arrange your application for the necessary papers. In most cases, the employer will deal with all of the bureaucracy for you.

What are typical working conditions?

In most countries, you can expect to teach a 5-day week of about 20-25 hours. (This does not include the time you will need to spend on planning your lessons.) Typically you may have 6-8 weeks of paid holidays and vacations. In the higher-paying Asian countries such as Japan and Korea, you may have to teach 6 days and 30-35 hours a week and you may have only 2-4 weeks of paid holidays and vacations.

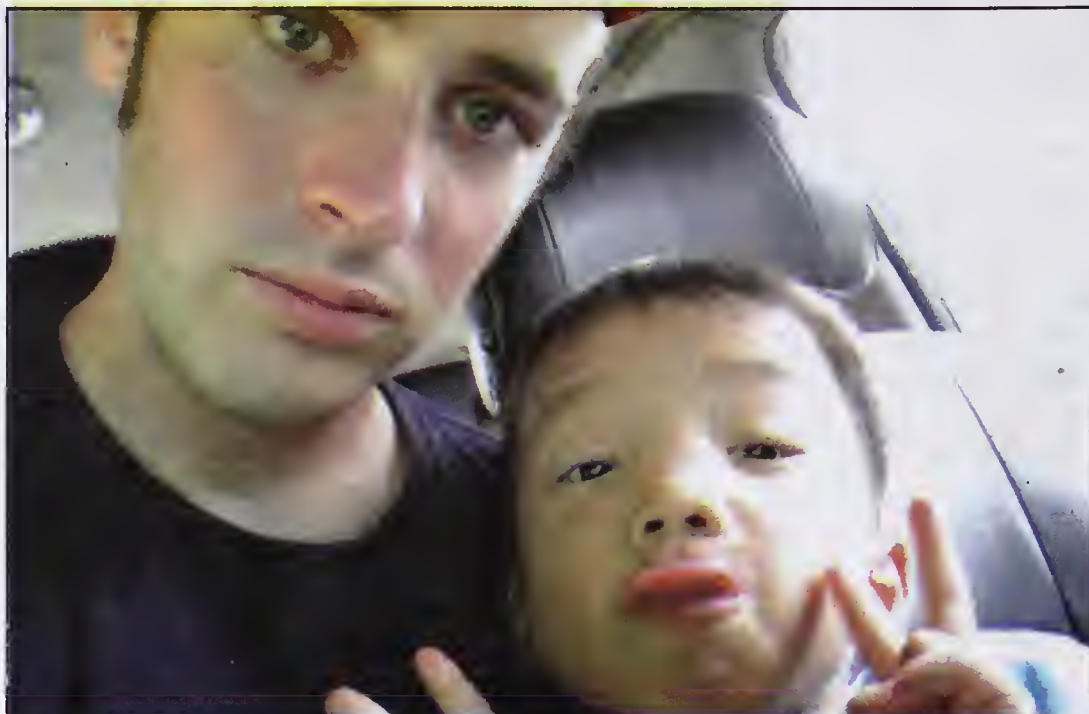
Will I be paid in dollars?

No. In virtually all overseas TEFL jobs you will be paid in the local currency and not in dollars.

How much will I earn?

This is impossible to answer because salaries and currency exchange rates vary so much. Also, salary figures are totally meaningless unless you know the cost of living in each country; for example, a salary of \$100 a month in Romania may sound pitiful but it will actually allow you to live much better than a monthly salary of \$1500 in Japan or Sweden.

In most countries, entry-level TEFL jobs with reputable employers will allow you to live comfortably (in local terms). They will also allow you either to make modest savings or to really enjoy your free time and vacations. Only a few countries offer jobs which allow you to live well, save money and really enjoy your leisure time.



Laurentian Alumni Colin Johnson graduated in May 2007 with an Honours B.A. in Political Science. Colin moved to South Korea soon after graduation and is now a full time English teacher. Look for an article about his experience in an upcoming issue of Lambda.

Will I be able to send money home?

If you teach in some Asian and Mid Eastern countries, you are likely to be able to save really significant amounts of money (\$500-\$1500 a month) and to be allowed to send it home. In most other countries, you will not be able to save so much and exchange control regulations may make it difficult to send home any savings.

What about taxes?

You will normally pay income tax and social security charges to the government of the country where you work, and in most cases these taxes will be much lower than those in Canada and the USA. You will need to file an income declaration in your home country but you will usual-

ly not have to pay any additional Canadian or US taxes on the money earned overseas, provided that you stay overseas for at least one year.

Can I teach extra lessons privately?

Most overseas contracts specifically state that you cannot teach privately without the permission of your employer. However, most employers will allow you to do some private teaching provided that your contract teaching is going well and that you do not steal students from your employer.

What about travel and housing?

If you arrange a job in advance and sign a contract for a year, overseas employers will often pay all or part of your airfare, particularly if the job is in Asia or the Mid East. In these areas, employers also often pro-

vide free or subsidized housing to teachers who arrange their jobs from N. America. In other parts of the world, employers may help you to arrange accommodation but they will not pay for it.

The standard of housing varies but it is usually reasonably good in local terms. However, bear in mind that few countries have housing that matches the standard of that in Canada or the USA. You should also realize that single-person housing is fairly rare overseas and so teachers may have to share houses or apartments with other teachers.

Do jobs provide health insurance?

Most countries have national health services which you will be eligible to use when you legally start work. It is often possible, at little extra cost, to subscribe to a local HMO or private healthcare program as well as, or instead of, the national health service.

Who will my students be?

Most entry-level jobs involve teaching groups of adults, adolescents and/or younger learners in private language schools. Some jobs require you to teach classes in local junior high schools, high schools or colleges. In some other jobs, you may teach mainly or solely individual executives or groups of employees on their companies' premises.

What happens if I really hate the job or the country?

Employers rarely want to keep teachers who are very unhappy. They will normally allow you to terminate your contract early if you wait a few weeks until they arrange a replacement teacher. However, they may require you to repay all or part of your airfare and of any other costs which the employer met on your behalf.

If an employer refuses to release you from your contract, you can simply walk away from the job and leave the country. However, this is clearly a very unprofessional approach and it will make it difficult for you to obtain other TEFL jobs in the future.

Is it possible to build a real career in TEFL?

Most EFL teachers stay in the field only 1-2 years and then return home and move into other types of work. However, many teachers make EFL their career. Some settle permanently in an overseas country, often becoming school directors or directors of studies. Others eventually return home and work in TEFL/TESL as teachers, trainers, program directors, materials writers, etc.

TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD



ELIGIBILITY

To recognize **OUTSTANDING** teaching performance, Laurentian University has established a Teaching Excellence Award. Full time tenured or tenure track faculty members may be nominated for the Award if they:

- have been successful in one or several areas for at least the past five years; and
- have the support of several constituencies, for example, students, peers, alumni, and administrators, rather than only a single constituency.

All nominations will remain confidential.

PROCEDURES

Sponsors must obtain the nominee's written consent so as to help assemble a **COMPLETE** file. Nominations will be accepted from the Dean of the Faculty to which the faculty member belongs or from three (3) other people who could be faculty and/or students of any department at Laurentian University. Self nominations will not be accepted. However, given the nature of the selection, the candidate should be involved in the preparation of the dossier.

The submission must be comprised of two parts:

- (1) a Nomination Brief that does not exceed 10 pages; and
- (2) a complete dossier which includes the appropriate supporting documentation.

The Nomination Brief should establish the case for the nominee. It should outline the main reasons for the nomination. Moreover, it should refer to the supporting evidence or documentation.

The complete dossier is comprised of the Nomination Brief as well as the supporting documentation.

The Award will be bestowed only **WHEN EVIDENCE OF OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IS FOUND**.

Letters of nomination with **FULL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION** should be sent to the Office of the Vice-President, Academic **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2007**. The dossier must be complete. Documentation will not be accepted after this date.

The committee will judge only based on the information received. The sponsors will be asked to make a five minute presentation.

The successful candidate will be honoured at the Spring Convocation.

AWARD

The award will normally be in the form of a top up of the sabbatical leave stipend to a maximum of 100% for Laurentian University Faculty. The Faculty from the Federated Universities may receive some other form of recognition.

For a complete listing of eligibility, criteria and procedures, please visit the Laurentian website at www.asr.laurentian.ca

Dear Mr. Todd Collings:

In your article on page 6 of the September 27th edition of Lambda, you mention that Sudbury Transit "is probably no faster than the traditional means of horse and buggy, even if Mister Ed is a few years past his prime, which many of the city buses clearly are."

I've driven through Mennonite populated areas, such as around Stratford, Kitchener-Waterloo, St. Jacob's, etc. I would just like to clarify that although the horse-and-buggy method may travel slower than a city bus, the speed is relatively stable, whereas the city bus travels slightly faster (when it's not broken down, in a collision, etc.) but makes stops of varying length. Also, the horse and buggy would be able to travel on a direct route, whereas the city bus will meander. I agree with you: my money's on the horse and buggy.

I know people who work Sunday night shift, and can't afford to take a cab. What do they do? Take the bus in HOURS before their shift starts, do their shift, and then

wait a couple more hours until the city transit starts up again.

My advice to residents of Sudbury: avoid making plans that require the bus on Sundays. You'll have to "cab it" after 7:00pm.

As for whoever is in charge of the bus routes: it's high time we re-examine where the routes are needed, the frequency of buses on a particular route, and what time the routes start and end (if at all). Just imagine the effect of changing Sunday service into the present Saturday service, and making Saturday service just like a weekday! :O It stands to reason that a greatly improved transit system would result in significantly higher ridership.

I have a vehicle now, and I don't miss the city transit, but I would definitely give the bus a try again (for the environment and financial reasons) if the city vastly improves all areas of service. "Build it, and they will come."

Cheers on having told the truth about Sudbury Transit!
"Former Sudbury Transit Rider"

Dear Lambda and Ben Istiphan,

I had to laugh out loud at your silly column, 'how democratic are the democrats'. I don't even know where to begin when showing your lack of understanding of G.O politics and especially the American people. The mistake comes from looking at them from a Canadian point of view.

First let me just tell you who will win the next election. You (BEN) and I will probably never see another Democrat win the white house in our life time (unless the Republicans put a real loser out). And certainly not someone like Dennis Kucinich. He is the furthest leftist, looniest candidate kook in the mix of democrat candidates. (and that is quite an accomplishment) The odds of Kucinich is as good former prime minister Jean Chretien winning a beauty pageant.

So who will win? Some one who is in favour of the current war against islamofacists and generally pro-military and strong on boarder control. Because clear thinking Americans understand the current threat to freedom. Someone, like for Mayor of N.Y Rudy Giuliani, or Senator Fred Thompson or possibly Gov. Mitt Romney. (Also Senators almost NEVER win presidential elections, the last was J.F.K-so that trend would bode against Hillary, and Obama and Edwards).

Secondly, No one, and I mean NO ONE will win the white house, who attempts to RAM through socialized health care. Why? Because it is an inferior form of health care. That is why We Canadians need more and more Privatized clinics. Free health care isn't free, it is just that someone else has to pay for you.

Many Americans see the problems with our system and don't want that. It has been rejected over and over and over by Americans. That is

why Hillary Clinton tries to hide her views on it because she has been beaten by it before. And you say "Unfortunately".?? When people saw the catastrophic things she proposed the Republicans were elected in a landslide. It'll happen again too. It would a catastrophic mistake for the U.S to adopt universal health care. The care quality will drop, the wait times will extend months (like here), and there will be no incentives to make cures since there is no profit in it. It is better to have personal health insurance.

Just let the free market do its work, it would be best for all.

Let me conclude with perhaps the most obvious. The people are not really unhappy with the current administration for the reasons you are thinking. Less than 3 years ago more than 60 million Americans voted for George W. Bush. Can you honestly tell me one thing that is different NOW than before the election in 2004? I don't think you can. So if they ARE unhappy it must be something else.


I'll tell you, they are unhappy (angry) with situation in the Southern boarder (mexico), the illegal immigrants, AND they are unhappy with the seeming lack of progress in Iraq. Not because they don't want to be there, but because there were few signs of victory. NOW there are more! (as of the Surge in August and September's good report) And once again, that is why the next president will be someone who will fight the war (Afghanistan, Iraq, and where ever terrorist reside) aggressively. Because, say what you want about Americans, ONE thing is, they Don't like to lose Wars. NOT EVER!

Thanks,
Stefan Laakso B.A (Honours), B.Ed
Music Graduate of Laurentian (Huntington)
University 2002

Local and visiting artists spill their guts about the albums that changed their lives in.

100 WORDS OR LESS


The Artist



Clayton Drake
(Life Blown Open)

When I was younger, I didn't have an older sibling or a witty guest writer at the Lambda to tell me about bands. As a result, I ended up listening to compilation CDs like "Now! 2" "Homework" was the first good CD I ever bought. If you took Kraftwerk and extracted the suck leaving only the synthesized robot aesthetic and inserted some funksoul, you'd be left with Daft Punk. Some songs run long, but put it on at your next party and no one will care because they'll all be too busy dancing to Daft Punk playing at your house.

The Album



Daft Punk

Tuesdays with Morrie opens November 1 at STC

It might not matter to many that Tuesdays with Morrie was on the New York Times Best Seller list; it might not matter to most that Oprah Winfrey loved it so much she not only featured in on her national book club but set about producing the movie starring Jack Lemmon; none of that might matter a smidgen. What does matter is that the stage play, quite simply, is excellent. What matters is that this moving drama will be in our neighbourhood for 11 days only, November 1-11 at the Sudbury Theatre Centre.

Tuesdays with Morrie by Jeffrey Hatcher and Mitch Albom is based on Albom's autobiography by the same name. Detroit sports writer Mitch Albom, a successful, career-obsessed journalist was watching Ted Koppel's "Nightline" on television one night when he saw an interview with his beloved "coach" and mentor from University, Morrie Schwartz. Morrie was dying of Lou Gherig's disease. Albom, although he had promised to keep in touch, hadn't. He rushed to see Morrie the following Tuesday to say good-bye. And so began a series of Tuesday meetings where Morrie's lessons in sociology were replaced with lessons on the meaning of life and love.

"A touching, life-affirming, deeply emotional drama with a generous dose of humour." (New York Daily News)

Actor Wayne Robson, known to many as Mike Hamar, criminal, on 48 episodes of The Red Green Show will play Morrie Schwarz. Robson has over 100 television and movie credits from such well-known movies as McCabe and Mrs. Miller to the Sandra Bulloch movie Two if By Sea and the eerie Kathy Bates'drama Dolores Claiborne.

Rick Hughes, who was cast as Harlan Brandstater in the 2006 STC production of When the Reaper Calls returns to the STC stage as Mitch Albom who travels each Tuesday to visit his mentor Morrie Schwartz. Hughes will touch the audience both through his performance ability and his prowess at the piano.

Stage Managed by Crystal MacDonnell, with Lighting Design by Christian Cicko and Costumes and Set Design by Sherri Catt, the second play in the STC season is a magical chronicle of an old man, a young man and life's greatest lessons.

Playing for ten shows only from November 1- 11 at 8 pm nightly except Mondays, STC has included two Sunday matinees at 2pm on November 4 and 11. The Pay What You Can Matinee is November 4. Ticket prices range from \$14.75 for students to \$24.75 for seniors and \$29.75 for adults.

Sponsored by Xstrata and CTV

date

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place

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hours

9 - 8

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CIBC Run For The Cure - Sudbury site sets record for number of participants and funds raised

SUDBURY, ON — Organizers of the CIBC Run for the Cure in Sudbury ecstatically announced that they raised a record \$236,129 locally for the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation's 16th annual fundraising event.

"I can't believe it!" exclaimed Manuela Vairo, Co-Run Director for the Sudbury Run Site. "Early on, we set our goal at \$200,000, which was higher than our site had achieved in the past. We're so thrilled that we exceeded that goal by 18%!" And funds are still coming in from Tanzania, Hearst and Timmins, which are all sites where virtual runs are taking place and are associated with the Sudbury run site.

In addition to smashing the local fundraising record, about 1,200 participants came out to join the fight against breast cancer — more participants than ever in the 10 year history of the Run in Sudbury.

"It's very gratifying to have such a great turn-out," said Pam

Paradis-Sokoloski, Co-Run Director. "We've been working on this since March and when we see this number of people come out to participate, we feel like it's all worth while." In addition to a committee of 11 people, more than 75 volunteers were on-site Saturday and Sunday to set-up, tear-down, act as run marshals, cheerlead as participants arrived at the finish line and so on.

Although the event is not about how far or how fast participants ran, several people were recognized for athletic excellence and fundraising abilities.

Athletic Excellence

Stephanie Koett was the first cancer survivor to cross the

finish line with a time of 22 minutes, 11 seconds.

Top male finishers:

Mike Coughlin (18 min, 5 sec)

John Schelegey (19 min, 23 sec)

Andrew Barson (19 min, 44 sec)

Top female finishers:

Sarah McIlraith (21 min, 41 sec)

Stephanie Koett (22 min, 11 sec)

Clair Parkinson (23 min, 8 sec)

Fastest youth (under age 13):

Male — Hayden Kosmerly (12 years old)

Female — Hailey Maziarski (11 years old)

Fundraising Excellence

Ford Determination Award (presented by Cambrian Ford) recognizes the participant in each Run Site across Canada who raised the most money in donations by the start of the Run. The Sudbury winner was Myra Gerow, who raised an amazing \$10,041.51

CIBC Corporate Spirit Award is awarded to a corporate team (Team CIBC is not eligible to win this award) that deposits the most in donations by September 28. The winning team, CVRD Inco Pink Gems, raised \$7,910.

New Balance Women's Team Challenge Award is presented to the top team of women consisting of 10 or more participants, that raises the most donations.

Dialysis Divas raised \$2,836.

McCain Friends and Family Team Award is presented to the a friends and family team with 10 or more members, that deposits the most donations by September 28. Once again, Mach 7 (led by Myra Gerow) receives this award

with a grand total of \$39,244.47 in donations this year. Over the past 7 years, this team has raised well over \$200,000.

Toppers Pizza School Awards win free pizza lunches from Topper's Pizza:

Top individual Student Fundraiser:

Carter Ward raised \$465

Top Teams:

1st Place: Northeastern Elementary with \$3,816.86 in donations.

2nd Place: St. Anne Angels with \$665 in donations

3rd Place: les Anges a Margherite

A GUIDE TO THIS YEAR'S FANTASY HOCKEY DRAFT

With hockey season just around the corner, fantasy hockey players are scrambling to figure out their draft picks. Which players should they take a chance on? Well, here are some answers.

SURE PICKS

Sidney Crosby: Turned 20 last month and has already won a scoring title and a Hart Trophy.

Joe Thornton: An underrated superstar who has finished in the top two in assists three out of the past four years.

Alexander Ovechkin: Two seasons in the league, two seasons with 90 plus points.

Jaromir Jagr: He's 14 gone in a row with at least 70 games played and 70 points.

Dark Horses

Peter Forsberg: Won't play until he's healthy, but half a season for him is better than most full years.

Jarome Iginla: With Iron Mike Keenan as Calgary's new coach, you never know how his players will react.

Thomas Vanek: With a breakout season last year, can Vanek perform at that high level for a second straight season?

Ray Whitney: Finished just outside the top 20 in scoring last year. At 35, will he be able to produce another 83 points?

Stay Clear

Andrew Brunette: Mediocre his whole career, 83 points a career high last season. It's unlikely he'll produce like that again.

Markus Naslund: Hate to say it, but only go after him if he's still available in the later rounds.

Paul Kariya: Will still produce, but playing in St. Louis will likely keep his numbers below what he enjoyed last season with the high-flying Predators.

Mats Sundin: He plays for the Leafs. Need I say more?

Athletes of the Week - Week of October 1st

ALEX GRAHAM

Laurentian University Sports Information Coordinator

SUDBURY, Ont.

Laurentian University Athletics is proud to announce Anthony Tagliafierro of the men's soccer team and Brittany MacMillan of the women's soccer team as "The Keg Steakhouse and Bar Athlete of the Week" for the week ending October 7th, 2007.

Anthony, a native of Sudbury, is in his fourth year of Economics. He has played in all 10 games so far this season for the Voyageurs and has registered a goal.

Tagliafierro was brilliant for the Voyageurs this weekend as they lost to the top-ranked

Carleton Ravens. He regularly shut down the high powered Raven offence and limited them to chances all afternoon.

"He's been a bright spot all season for the team," said head coach Carlo Castrechino. "He's a leader on and off the field."

MacMillan, from Winnipeg, MN. is a fourth year Bio-Med student here at Laurentian. She has appeared in all 12 games so far this season for the Vees, but has yet to register a goal.

This past weekend, Brittany played her best soccer of the season against two of the country's top teams. Though the Lady Vees came out

of the trip winless, Brittany showed she can play top-level soccer against all competition.

"She played with passion and was a physical presence throughout both games," said head coach, Rob Gallo. "She won countless challenges for the ball and contributed to the team's strong defensive play."

Both athletes will look for even better results when they return to action this weekend as Laurentian hosts the University of Toronto on Saturday afternoon.

Stay tuned to www.luvoyageurs.com for up-to-date news, views and scores.

Fantasy sports a welcome distraction from studies

RYAN SPEDDING

NEXUS (CAMOSUN COLLEGE)

VICTORIA (CUP) -- Procrastination is like masturbation. It feels good, but in the end you're only screwing yourself. Students however, continue to employ many methods of procrastination. They check Facebook seven times every half hour, read celebrity gossip and stare at blank walls.

While all of these methods are effective, some students' preferred manner of procrastination is fantasy sports.

Matt Williams, Camosun College student and sports enthusiast, is more than willing to give us a glimpse into the world of fantasy sports.

"It puts you in the role of the team manager," said Williams. "It really gives you a sense of ownership of the players because when you're watching them play, they're playing for your team."

Williams is a wily veteran of the fantasy sports leagues and knows what it takes to come out on top at the end of the year.

"You want to look for drop-offs in talent," said Williams. "If there's one position where there's a huge drop-off in talent, you want to attack that position early in the draft."

Such is the case with NHL defensemen

in fantasy hockey. There's a handful that will rack up points, but if you're unable to pick one of them you're going to come out of the draft with shoddy defence.

Williams believes NFL football provides the best fantasy experience out of all the major leagues. He's been a mainstay of the fantasy sport for the last three years. "The contact brings out the sheer emotion of the game, which translates to you when watching the players, which [then] translates to your fantasy team," he said.

Each fantasy sports league has a draft at the beginning of the season where participants select their players for the year.

"[Our football] draft lasts four hours. We eat complete junk. We probably lose five years off our lives, but it's fun," he said. "We take the end results from the previous year and use that to determine who gets first pick."

Most players agree that live drafts are best, but Williams believes that online fantasy leagues do well to combine busy schedules with nail-chewing excitement.

"The on-line leagues are just convenient," said Williams. "But I love live drafts—there's a dynamic, and they're unpredictable. There's that one player and you're four picks away. You're pretty much sweating [hoping] you're going to get him. It could either be joy or heartbreak if the guy before you picks him."



STAR PARTY
SUDBURY ASTRONOMY CLUB

SPECIAL CELESTIAL EVENT

Location: Canadian Tire Parking Lot, Lasalle

Date: October 27th

Time: 7:30PM

There shall be an event known as a lunar occultation to occur on this evening in a well known spot in the sky, the Pleiades. We will be here with our equipment (mainly binoculars and telescopes), sky maps.

Everyone of every age is welcome. If you have binoculars, bring them and view this event with us as we will have charts made out for all to map the route of the moon in the sky.

The General Dogsbody: Sixty Things!

You've heard it all before – especially if you've seen me in counselling. Human health has (at least) six components – physical, social, emotional, spiritual, intellectual and vocational. (There is a seventh, but I'm getting to that.) If you neglect any of these areas of well-being, your overall wellness is going to decline. Here's the condensed version:

Physical

- a) **Supernutrition.** By this I mean a diet focused on vegetables, fruits, whole grains and low-fat higher protein foods, especially legumes.
- b) **Avoidance** (or at least reduction) of toxins. The usual suspects are nicotine, alcohol, and illegal drugs, but also included is junk food. You've seen the movie "Supersize Me" or read the book "Fast Food Nation"?!
- c) **Exercise.** You need no less than 30 minutes a day of fast walking – preferably outside.
- d) **Sleep.** Many of us are sleep-deprived, but most of this is not because of overwork. We don't manage our time well and we spend way too much time in front of the tube – be it TV or the computer.
- e) **Having a yearly check-in** with your Nurse Practitioner or Family Doc. Lyne Rivet at Health Services gives thorough and friendly physical assessments.

Social

We are social creatures and we need

time with a) family, b) friends, c) significant others, and d) "play groups" like your sports team or church group. The other day I came across a piece of advice that pertains to this. "Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends and family will. Stay in touch."

Emotional

You and I often say things to ourselves that we would never say to closest friends, let alone our worst enemies. We berate ourselves on a regular basis and then wonder why we feel awful. The best bit of advice I've ever received on this topic are the words, "Learn to be your own best friend." This gives me permission to treat myself – to show myself that I think I'm worth "it", whatever "it" is.

We benefit by having hobbies – things that allow us to be creative and to "get into the zone". Here we can take a break from the demands of school and work, and even friends and family.

And we need to laugh. Type the words "benefits of laughing" into your Google search engine – then rent the movie "What About Bob!?"

Spiritual

I truly believe that when we know the "why" of our existence, the "how" is just putting one foot in front of the other. Folks who consider themselves "Faith-based" know their overall purpose is to love God and serve others. But atheists, agnostics and believers alike have to

spend some time discerning what their particular gifts and abilities are, where they feel these are best used, and finding the education and experience that will get them there.

And altruistic people? There are many articles, studies and books on the topic "Why Good Things Happen to Good People". Let me save you some reading time. Quite simply, people who do good, live longer, healthier and happier lives.

Intellectual and Vocational

I expect you are getting as much intellectual challenge as you can stand right about now. If you are in a professional school, you know what your next step is. This is not necessarily so for arts and science majors. By the time you read this, the October 11th career day may be over – but the LU Career and Placement centre is still here, willing to help you find meaningful, paying work. And the list of the companies and organizations that were at the Career Fair are listed on their website.

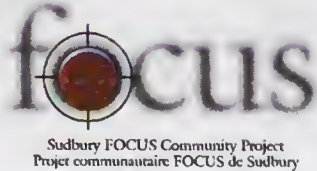
The Seventh Component of Health and Happiness

Dang! I'm over my 500 word limit. Watch for my next column where I'll let the cat out of the bag.

Jan Carrie Steven is a Counsellor at Student Services. She volunteers at the Greater Sudbury Animal Shelter. Visit her website at www.smallthings.ca



Formoreinformationcall:
SudburyFOCUSCommunityProject674-4330



ACROSS

1. Not right

5. What you kiss with

9. 20

14. Winged

15. Conceited

16. Church deacon

17. Hare-like rodent

18. Zulu warriors

19. Crucifixes

20. Engraved

22. Not second

23. Farewell

24. Accomplishments

26. Concealed

29. They mark ballots

33. Viewed

38. Induces vomiting

39. Looked at

40. Acquire knowledge

42. Avatar of Vishnu

43. 2nd longest European river

45. Railing support

47. Stableboy

48. God of war (Norse mythology)

49. Savor

52. 3rd letter of the Greek alphabet

57. Smooth and gleaming

60. Gangster

63. A nucleus of personnel

64. Modern day Persia

65. Chocolate cookie

66. Rage

67. Otherwise

68. Meshes

69. Ales

70. Levee

71. Nature of being

DOWN

1. Vampire

2. African antelope

3. Persian

4. A barely detectable amount

5. Fifty-seven in Roman numerals

6. Metrical unit of

7. Transported fluids overland

8. Contemptuous

9. A type of servitude

10. Monasteries or convents

11. Smell

12. Crimson and scarlet

13. Formerly

21. A tributary of the Rhine River

25. Equally

27. Layabouts

28. D

30. French for "State"

31. Frost

32. Left by a wound

33. Attempt again

34. An unfledged hawk

35. Fellow

36. He cheats on his wife

37. Pat

41. Rodent

44. Laboratory flasks

46. Exhort

50. Judged in a court of law

51. Not late

53. Make amends

54. Small ponds

55. Encounters

56. Came up

57. Forms on a wound

58. Alley

59. The boundary of a surface

61. Keg

62. Leg joint

